

News Release

Pianist Stephen Carlson to Perform at the U of M Crookston on Tuesday, October 25, 2011; Concert begins at 7

By Itollems on Thursday, October 13, 2011

To celebrate the 200th anniversary of pianist and composer Franz Liszt's birth, the University of Minnesota, Crookston will host a concert by Stephen Carlson, professor of piano at Bemidji State University. The concert will be held on Tuesday, October 25, 2011, at 7:30 p.m. The concert will be performed on the new grand piano located in the Evergreen Residence Hall lobby. Evergreen Hall is located directly north of the UMC athletic fields on the south side of the campus. The performance, sponsored by Concerts & Lectures, is free and the public is invited.

The evening will begin with Liszt's St. Francis of Paola Walking on the Water followed by Sonata No. 32 in C minor, Op. 111 by Ludwig van Beethoven. Following a program intermission will be Ballade No. 4 in Fminor, Op. 52 by Frederic Chopin and conclude with Three Movements from Petrushka by Igor Stravinsky.

A member of the Bemidji State University Music Department since 2006, Stephen Carlson is a versatile soloist and chamber musician who has performed at many colleges, universities, and festivals throughout much of the U.S. and Eastern Canada.

In 2005, Dr. Carlson made his New York debut as a solo recitalist in Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall with a program that included Schumann's Symphonic Etudes, Stravinsky's Three Movements from Petrushka, and various works by Beethoven, Debussy and Scriabin. From 1995 to 2003, he appeared at Minnesota Valley Sommarfest in St. Peter, Minn., where he performed an array of solo and collaborative works. Appointed to the Performing Artist Roster of the South Carolina Arts Commission, he has also performed chamber music with members of the South Carolina Philharmonic as well as the Charleston and Greenville [S.C.] Symphonies. He has appeared with the Bemidji Symphony Orchestra three times: last season in which he played Beethoven's Emperor Concerto, in 2009 when he played Tchaikovsky's Piano Concerto No. 1 and in 2007 when he played Beethoven's Triple Concerto along with Michelle Laliberte and Patrick Riley. He also performed the Tchaikovsky with the Bismarck-Mandan Symphony, Mozart's Concerto in A major, K. 414 with the Gustavus Adolphus Chamber Orchestra, and Saint-Saëns's Carnival of the Animals with the Mississippi Valley Chamber Orchestra.

He completed the doctor of musical arts degree in piano performance and pedagogy at the University of Iowa where he studied with Uriel Tsachor. He is also a graduate of the University of Illinois and Gustavus Adolphus College where he studied with Ian Hobson and John McKay, respectively.

This season, Carlson has recitals scheduled in Arizona, Minnesota, North and South Carolina, North Dakota, and Halifax, Nova Scotia. Also an innovative clinician with wide-ranging interests, he is frequently called upon to give master classes, piano teacher workshops, and to adjudicate contests. Most recently, he instituted "Piano Day" with the support of the Bemidji State University Foundation and Department of Music. Prior to coming to Bemidji State where he is associate professor of music, Carlson was a tenured faculty member at Coker College in Hartsville, S.C. He has also taught piano at the University of Arkansas Pine Bluff, Gustavus Adolphus College and St. Joseph's School of Music in St. Paul, Minn.

For more information, contact Associate Professor George French at 218-281-8266.

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